

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) **CONFIDENTIAL** REPORT 284

TOPIC Military Information from the Templin-Zehdenick-Hammelspring Area 50X1-HUM

EVALUATION [REDACTED] 50X1-HUM

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 31 August 1951

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]

REMARKS [REDACTED] 50X1-HUM

1. Between 28 July and 1 August 1951, no incoming shipments of troops or weapons were observed in the Zehdenick-Templin (N 54/U 81) area. Field exercises continued day and night at a rate previously observed. Road supply traffic kept up unabated. 50X1-HUM

2. A convey of 18 trucks, with one truck carrying a motorboat and the others engineer equipment, passed through Marienthal at noon on 1 August and proceeded northward. [REDACTED]

3. Three T-34 tanks tried in vain to cross the Havel River near Burgwall during the night of 2 August, the crossing exercise being supervised by a senior lieutenant. Two of the trucks stalled in the river and had to be towed out. The crossing attempt was not repeated thereafter. Other materiel involved in the exercise were 3 AT guns of about 100 mm, 3 full-track tractors, and truck [REDACTED] 50X1-HUM

5. On 3 August, about 400 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and black-bordered red epaulets were seen practicing in the area east and southeast of Camp Hammelspring. The troops were organized in squads and platoons and practiced the construction of field wire lines, the advance in overgrown terrain, and combat in the woods. The troops had a ragged appearance but appeared to be excellently trained. Another 30 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen drilling with six 76.2-mm AT guns near the camp. A group of about 20 infantry officers was observed receiving instruction in map reading.

6. Fifty canvas-covered tanks and 30 to 40 trucks were parked in the eastern section of Camp Hammelspring. [REDACTED] training activity 50X1-HUM had somewhat decreased and the number of troops slightly diminished. Vehicles observed at the camp included sedan [REDACTED] with officers wearing red-bordered black epaulets; sedan [REDACTED] occupied by infantry officers 50X1-HUM

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and driven by a soldier with red-bordered black epaulets; trucks [redacted] black epaulets; trucks [redacted] driven by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets; trucks [redacted] occupied by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets and black-bordered red epaulets.

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7. The number of troops of all ranks and branches of service who were seen in 50X1-HUM

the streets of Templin decreased compared to previous observations. On 3 August, 2 officers and 30 recruits with red-bordered black epaulets arrived by train from the direction of Eberswalde and drove to Camp Hammelspring [redacted]

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Vehicles seen between Hammelspring and Zehdenick on that day included sedans [redacted] with officers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia; truck [redacted] with soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets; truck [redacted] with soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and black-bordered red epaulets; and a truck [redacted] occupied by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets. \*

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\* [redacted] Comment. The report indicates no changes in the overall situation at the Templin troop training grounds. [redacted]

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[redacted] the convoy with engineer equipment, mentioned in paragraph 2 of the present report, belonged to the 25th Tank Div. A component of the unidentified AAA division of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army left Eberswalde by rail for Templin on 22 July 1951. [redacted]

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The recruits mentioned in paragraph 7 of the present report were personnel of this AAA division. All other vehicle [redacted] mentioned in the present report belong to the 25th Tank Div, the 6th Gds Mecz Div, and headquarters units of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army.

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